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THE Pennſylvania GAZETTE.

Containing the freſheſt Advices Foreign and Domeſtick.

From Thurſday, March 23. to Thurſday, March 30. 1731-2.

To the Printer of the GAZETTE.

THE prodigious Growth of Infidelity among us, within theſe few Years paſt, has juſtly alarmed the Conſiderate of all Perſuaſions, who therefore join unanimouſly in the Complaint againſt it. Scepticiſm infeſts almoſt every Converſation; and one continually meets with People, otherwiſe ſeemingly of tolerable Senſe, who openly declare, that they know not but as much may be ſaid againſt any Opinion as for it: Some profeſs they know only this, That they know nothing; and there are others who aſſert, that even This cannot certainly be known. How unaccountable is this ſtrange Race of Unbelievers! Often have they been attack'd with great Strength and Judgment, by the worthy Advocates of our common Cauſe; but never ſo effectually as in the laſt Weeks Mercury: *Portius* has afforded a Blow that ſtaggers even the ſtouteſt of 'em; and needs only to be well follow'd, to cauſe their entire Overthrow. I therefore add my Force to his; and, to their utter Confuſion, I deſign in the following Diſcourſe, to advance Five Hundred ſeveral Propoſitions, Doctrines, or Matters of Belief; each of which ſhall be clear to the Underſtanding, convincing to the Judgment, undeniable by the moſt perverſe Sceptic, and againſt which the leaſt Shadow of an Argument cannot be raiſed.

I ſhall begin, by obſerving, That whoever abandons a Truth he was once in Poſſeſſion of, may be ſaid to relinquiſh that Truth; and if in its room he cleaves to Falſhood, he certainly adheres to Error. This being granted me, I infer, that in order to his Amendment there ought to be a Reformation; becauſe, whatever is amiſs, is peccant and vicious; and every Offender is undeniably a Delinquent. If his Errors have no Appearance of Truth, there can be no Probability of their being true: If he is made angry by Oppoſition, it is plain he is irritated; it is then proper he ſhould be appeaſed and pacified, which cannot be if he is implacable and inexorable.

Secondly, Great Talkers, being commonly loquacious to a great Degree, no Admonition will be available that is not efficacious; becauſe, old Follies are inveterate, and what a Man cannot avoid, is inevitable: Hence then it appears ſomewhat neceſſary to bear with ſuch Men, which cannot be without Patience; for if you backbite them, it will be Detraction; and then you cannot make them Amends without a Compenſation. And if you openly engage with angry People in Battle, there will be a Conflict; and whatever enſues accidentally, will be a Contingency; and every one that beholds it, will be a Spectator, both in Law and Equity; ſo that Witneſſes will not be wanting.

Thirdly, as to the Cauſe of Error; Men would not be ſo apt to believe falſe Doctrines, if they were not credulous; neither would there be ſo many Infidels, if it were not for Incredulity. Could all men be brought to one Belief, that would be a wonderful Agreement, and conſequently their Opinions be more congruous than they are.

But Fourthly, How is it poſſible a Man ſhould be an univerſal Sceptic? Will he oppoſe the plaineſt Truths? Can he be ſo blockiſh, without being ſtupid? can he be ſo exceedingly bold without being very audacious? He may perhaps aſſert that 2 and 2 do not make 4: But can he deny that blameworthy Actions are reprehenſible? can he ſay that a fat Man is not corpulent? can he deny that an overflowing of Water is an Inundation; and an overflowing of Words an exuberant Redundancy? that ſome binding things are obligatory, others conjugative, and others aſtringent? can he deny that what is clear, is perſpicuous; that Charges are expenſive; that a Woman with child, is pregnant; and that Unchaſtity is Incontinence? or will he ſay that there is no Concatenation in the Chain of a Watch; and that a Flute can be plaid on muſically without Inſpiration? If a Man can be ſo ſhameleſs he muſt needs be impudent; and you cannot change his way of thinking, without making an Alteration.

Fifthly, Come hither ye Scepticks; draw near ye Infidels; ye Men of little Faith, or no Faith; ye Doubters, ye Unbelievers; ye Negators of every Affirmative, and Aſſerters of no one Negative; anſwer what I ſhall now ask you, or be ye mute and dumb for ever. Can there be Darkneſs without Tenebroſity; or Darting without Jaculation? Is not an Evil Doer a Malefactor, and is not Drunkenneſs Ebriety? Are not earthly Things terreſtrial, and everlaſting Things perpetual? Can a Man fall headlong without Precipitation? or forejudge a Thing without Prejudice? or talk bawdy without Obſcenity? Are not Things fit to be laughed at, ridiculous? Is not a Maidenhead Virginity? Are not horned Beaſts cornuted? —— Ye Miſcreants! ye cannot deny theſe Things! Ye are now convinced that ſome Truths are replete with Veracity, and that all Things are not equally uncertain.

Tho' the preſent Occaſion be ſerv'd, and our Infidels, by *Portius* and my ſelf, totally routed, and without doubt converted; yet let the Ingenious preſerve this Paper carefully; for as it is full of irrefragable Truths, and inconteſtable Axioms, they may hereafter ſerve as firſt Principles indiſputable, from which to prove and demonſtrate Truths more abſtruſe and remote.

MARCUS.

London, Octob. 30. On Wedneſday laſt a Perſon went to Hampton-Court, and gave Information to one of his Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State, that a Barrel of Gunpowder was laid under Bloody Bridge, between Chelſea and Buckingham-Houſe, in order to blow up his Majeſty as he paſſed over the ſaid Bridge, in his Coach from Hampton-Court to St. James's. Upon which Meſſengers were ſent to the Place, where they found the Powder; ſince which Warrants have been iſſued againſt ſeveral Perſons, of whom Information hath been given.

This

This being the Anniverſary of the Birthday of his Majeſty King George, who was born Octob. 30. 1683. the ſame was uſhered in by Ringing of Bells. The Foreign Miniſters and Nobility paid their Compliments to their Majeſties. At Noon the Guns in the Park and at the Tower were fired, and at Night there are to be Illuminations, Bonfires, and other Demonſtrations of Joy.

This Day the Duke of Lorrain, and all his Gentlemen, appeared at Court in rich new Clothes, made the Engliſh Faſhion, in Honour of His Majeſty's Birth-day.

A New Throne is making in the Houſe of Lords at Weſtminſter for his Majeſty, together with many other neceſſary Repairs, againſt the Meeting of the Parliament, which we hear will be on the 13th of January next.

London, Novem. 20. The Swedes having laid a Duty of 5 per Cent. on Woollen Goods imported into Sweden, in Britiſh Ships, which Money is apply'd in encouraging a Woollen Manufacture of their own, lately erected, and having in many other Particulars greatly diſcouraged our Navigation, the Merchants trading to that Kingdom are preparing to lay a State of the Caſe before the Lords Commiſſioners for Trade and Plantations.

Portſmouth, New-Hampſhire, Feb. 22. Yeſterday was apprehended one *Stiles* for Uttering counterfeit Bills. Nine Bills of 3 *l.* 10 *s.* each were found in his Pocket, together with a ſolemn League & Covenant, (as 'tis call'd) ſign'd by himſelf, John M'vicker, and one Brian, a Scribe of M'vickers, wherein they were obliged in the Penalty of 500 *l.* not to diſcover one another; and upon his being apprehended, Warrants were immediately iſſued out, and the other two were taken and committed to Priſon. They had a Plate, and the Bills were ſo nicely ſtruck, that nothing but the Signings could diſcover the Cheat.

Cuſtom-Houſe, New-York, March 27. *Inward Entries.* Richard from Madera and Euſtatia, Griffith from Boſton, Givan and Shankland from Lewis on Delaware. *Outward Entries,* Tucker for Amboy, Ratſey for Suranam, Thache for Coracoa, Sipkins for Barbadoes, Sherwin for Jamaica, Marſton for Coracoa, Griffith for Boſton, Nelſon for Madera. *Cleared,* Emott to Jamaica, Bodin and Thache to Coracoa, Sipkins to Barbadoes, Griffith to Boſton.

PHILADELPHIA, *March* 30.

From Boſton we hear, That the Captain who brought the Palatines into Marthas Vineyard, is arreſted and under Proſecution on their Account, of which we ſhall give a more particular Account in our next.

This day was decently interred here, Mr. Richard Townſend, a very ancient Preacher among Friends, and a Man of exemplary Innocence and Piety.

Cuſtom-Houſe, Philadelphia, Entred inwards, None.

Entred outwards.

Ship Mary, James Benn, for Dublin.

New-Briſtol Hope, Thomas Chalkly, for Barbadoes.

Cleared.

Ship Alexander & Ann, William Clymer, to St. Kits.

Buried in the ſeveral Burying-Grounds of this City in a Fort. paſt.

Church	2.	Baptiſts		0.
Quakers	2.	Strangers	Whites	0.
Presbyterians	0.		Blacks	3.

Prices of the following Goods, Wheat 2 *s.* 10 *d.* Flour 8 *s.* Midling Bread 12 *s.* Mixt ditto 10 *s.* 6 *d.* Brown ditto 9 *s.* Rum 2 *s.* 8 *d.* Mellaſſes 16 *d.*

THIS is to give Notice to all Perſons indebted to Andrews *and* Poſtlethwaite (*late in Partnerſhip*) *Brewers; that they have lately ſettled their Accounts by Arbitration, wherein it is awarded that* Ephraim Andrews *ſhall receive the reſpective Sums due to them; and that* John Poſtlethwaite *hath no Power to collect or receive the ſame. And whereas the ſaid* Poſtlethwaite *hath immediate Occaſion for his Dividend, their ſeveral Ballances are to be paid to the ſaid* Andrews, *or the Debts will be ſued for.*

ALL Perſons who have any juſt Demands againſt the Eſtate of William Coleman, *late of this City, Carpenter, deceaſed, are deſired to bring in their Accounts to his Widow and Adminiſtrator, in order that ſhe may take proper Meaſures to ſatisfy them.* Philad. March 28. 1732.

Juſt Publiſhed;

A HELP for Parents and Heads of Families, to inſtruct thoſe under their Care, in the firſt Principles of Religion: Being a ſhort plain Catechiſm, *grounded upon God's Word, and agreeable to the Weſtminſter Aſſembly's excellent Catechiſms. By* David Evans, *a Labourer in the Goſpel at Tredyffryn in Pennſilvania. Printed and ſold by* B. Franklin, *Price 9 d.* Where may be had,

Juſt Publiſhed,

THE Traditions of the Clergy deſtructive of Religion; With an Enquiry into the Grounds and Reaſons of ſuch Traditions: A SERMON *preached at the Viſitation held at Wakefield in Yorkſhire, June* 25, 1731. *London printed: reprinted in Philadelphia, with a Dedication to the Reverend Mr.* Henderſon *by* Athanaſius Wildfire. *Price 6 d.*

ARchbiſhop Tillotſon's WORKS *compleat, in three Volumes in Folio, neatly bound and Letter'd, to be ſold by the Printer hereof, Price* 4 l. 10 *s.*

ON Thurſday the 9th of this Inſtant March, Eſcaped from the Goal of the City of Philadelphia, John M'Farſon, *being the Captain of a Crew condemn'd for Piracy, at a Court of Admiralty held at the City aforeſaid. He is a ſhort well-ſet Man, brown Complexion and freſh coloured, much pock-fretten: He had on when he went away, a black Wig, a dark-colour'd double-breaſted Coat, a Seerſucker Jacket and Breeches, a white Holland Shirt, and good Shoes and Stockings. All Perſons are forbid to entertain him, at their Peril: And whoſoever ſecures him ſo that he may be returned to the ſaid Goal, will receive from the Honourable PATRICK GORDON, Eſq; Governor of Pennſylvania, &c. the Sum of* Twenty Pounds; *and be paid a further Sum of* Ten Pounds, *by* C. READ, Sher.

WHereas there has been lately a conſiderable Demand on Samuel Carpenter, *Brewer, Thoſe Perſons that are indebted to him, are hereby deſired to pay their ſeveral Debts before the firſt Day of* Auguſt *next; otherwiſe there muſt be legal Courſes taken to recover the ſame, without any further Notice given them. Thoſe Perſons that have any Demands on him, are deſired to bring in their Accounts within that Time, Care ſhall be taken to ſatisfy them. There is to be ſold by the ſaid* Samuel, *Strong Beer for 24 s. the Barrel, or 12 d. the Gallon; Good Ale for 16 s. the Barrel, or 8 d. the Gallon; and Middling Beer for 8 s. the Barrel, or 4 d. the Gallon. Thoſe that ſend clean Bottles with good Corks, may have the beſt Beer for 4 s. the Dozen, and Middling Beer for 2 s. the Dozen.*

TO *be ſold by* William Fiſhbourn, *about Five hundred Acres of very good Land, well-water'd, part fit for Meadowing, near* Horſham. *Alſo near one Hundred Acres of good Meadow Land, already in Engliſh Graſs, with good Thorn Hedges and Ditches about the ſame. And ſeveral Parcels of good Upland; and Three-Fourths of* Briſtol Mills, *Lands, Houſes & Lots thereto belonging; all in* Bucks *County. Alſo ſeveral Houſes and Lots, and Ground-Rents for ever, in* Philadelphia *City, on reaſonable Terms.*

LOſt laſt Saturday Night, in Market Street, about 40 *or* 50 *s. if the Finder will bring it to the Printer hereof, who will deſcribe the Marks, he ſhall have* 10 *s. Reward.*

PHILADELPHIA: Printed by *B. Franklin* and *H. Meredith*, at the *New Printing-Office* near the Market, where Advertiſements are taken in, and all Perſons may be ſupplied with this Paper, at *Ten Shillings* a Year.